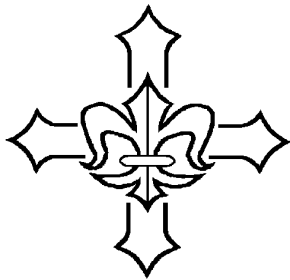


Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Godmanchester

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 6th April 2008

Easter 3

Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Peter Moger

Sung Eucharist

President: Jerry Craddock Preacher: Peter Moger

Readers

Readings

Gospel

Acts Ch 2 vv 14a, 36-41 & 1 Peter Ch 1 vv 17-23

Luke Ch 24 vv 13-35

Intercessions

Peter Dawe

Hymns

114, 124, 103, 107

Communion

115, 102

Sung Evensong

Gillian Bathurst-Hoile

Hymns

345, 118, 331

Psalm

48

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

Street Prayer Mission: Lancaster Way, Fox Grove, Rectory Gardens and Grove Court

Charity of the month: DISH

Holy Communion. All are welcome at the altar rail. If you are a communicant member of your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here. Or if you would like to receive a Blessing, please come forward with a hymn book, kneel at the rail and bow your head.

Notices

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The formal "Notice of Annual Parochial Church Meeting" (APCM) is on the main notice board in the South Porch. The APCM will be held in the Church Hall on Sunday 27th April 2008, starting at 11.15am. The meeting includes the election of two Churchwardens, three members of the PCC for three years and three members to represent the parish on the Deanery Synod for three years. Nomination forms are available from the PCC Secretary. All persons whose names are entered upon the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote at the APCM. If you are member of the congregation and not on the electoral roll, please complete an electoral roll form and pass to John Bathurst-Hoile (Electoral Roll Officer) or Trevor Weedon (PCC Secretary). Members of the congregation wishing to raise any item under "Any other business" are asked to give notice of the item to the PCC Secretary by 24th April. Trevor Weedon (413264).

Wives' Group

On Tuesday 8th April, our speaker will be Tish Page who will give an illustrated talk about Lithuania, its history, geography and culture. Everyone welcome at 8pm in the church hall.

Children's Society Boxes

If you would like your Children's Society box emptying this month please either bring it to church or telephone me to arrange collection. Thank you for your support. Kate Steed (382101).

Your Parish Pictures

Do you have any photographs of Parish events that might be of interest to us all? In preparation for our display of images in the church this summer, we would like to see some of the pictures (new and old) that members of the congregation have in their

collections. If you have the images in digital format please pass them on a disc, but for those who have their photographs as prints, we can scan the pictures and return your originals so that copies would be displayed. For further details, please see Lawrence Back or Jim Heeley.

Parish Photograph 2008

It is planned to have a 'parish photograph' on Sunday 18th May. In addition to a large group shot of all church members who are available on the day, it is hoped to have a series of smaller group photographs representing the many teams of people such as bell ringers, choir, Mothers' Union, Youth Group etc. Plans will be made in advance so that we have a schedule of who needs shooting when during the day. These images will then form the centre of a display that will be available to view inside the church from Gala Weekend until Harvest Festival. Further details will follow as the big day approaches. Please put this date in your diary and say a prayer for good weather.

Explorers' Holiday Club

The Baptist Church is organising a holiday club again this year. Entitled 'Champion's Challenge', it will be held from Monday 11th to Friday 15th August from 10.00 to 12.30. The theme ties in with the Olympic Games taking place in China. Each day one aspect of a sports team will be explored in order to show who Jesus is. This will involve a number of passages from Luke's gospel. The target group is children in primary school or those due to start primary school in September 2008. There will be a crèche for the children of those involved. The daily format will be 'the grandstand' which is worship and drama together, followed by three activities in groups comprising bible exploration with refreshments, craft and games. Everyone comes together at the end another 'grandstand'. Helpers are needed for all areas; team captains and vice-

captains, sport leaders and helpers, craft team members, dramatic performers, people to run the crèche, office workers, technical workers, snack bar team members, grandstand presenters, welcome and registration personnel and people who are vocalists, musicians or dancers. If you feel you can help in any way please ask me for a commitment form. People need to volunteer early as CRB checks are required and they take time. I have helped several times and really enjoyed the experience. Jean Morgan (417502).

Eco-congregation News

Hopefully, we have all been saving any dead batteries to have them recharged. These batteries can be dropped off in the church vestry. We are going to recharge them (yes even the ordinary ones can be recharged up to ten times). Once the project is up and running, then you'll be able to exchange your worn out batteries with charged ones for a fraction of the cost. Please keep ALL types of batteries from now on. Do ask even at places like schools, clubs and your work. This project is better for the environment and will help raise money for other eco-projects. Simon and Janie Prince.

Church Fund Raising

Do you buy goods on-line? Do you use the computer to search for information? If you were to do this by using our church's website as your home page, and clicking on easysearch or easyfundraising, you would raise money for the church as you click. Paul Sibley has set it all up and I tried it last week, finding it very easy to use, and I can highly recommend it to you. Janie Prince.

New Bell Ringer

Following the death of Quasimodo, the Bishop of the Cathedral Church of Notre Dame sent word throughout the streets of Paris that a new bell ringer would need to be appointed. The Bishop decided to conduct the interviews, and went up into the belfry to

see the candidates. After several had demonstrated their skills, he decided to call it a day, but an armless man approached him announcing that he was there to apply for the post. The Bishop, incredulous declared, " My Son, you have no arms!" " No matter" replied the man. He then proceeded to strike the bells with his face, producing the most beautiful melody on the carillon. The Bishop was astonished, believing he had indeed found a suitable replacement for Quasimodo. But in rushing forward to strike a bell, the armless man tripped, and plunged headlong out of the belfry to his death in the street below. The Bishop, stunned, rushed to his side. As he reached the street, a crowd had gathered around the fallen figure, drawn by the beauty of the music they had heard, but a moment before. As they parted in silence to allow the Bishop through, one man asked " Bishop, who was he?" " I don't know his name" replied the Bishop sadly, " But his face rings a bell." The following day, despite the sadness that weighed heavily on his heart following the death of the armless campanologist, the Bishop continued his interviews. The first man to approach addressed him, "Your Grace, I am the brother of the poor armless wretch who fell to his death from this belfry yesterday. I pray that you will allow me to replace him." The Bishop agreed to an audition, but as the man reached to strike the first bell, he groaned, clutched at his chest, collapsed, and died on the spot. Two monks, hearing the cries of grief from the Bishop at the tragedy, rushed up the stairs..... "What has happened? Who is this man?" they cried. " I don't know his name" exclaimed the distraught Bishop, but he's a dead ringer for his brother."

Newsletter Compiler

Pam Ayres is Newsletter Compiler during April and May. Contact Pam on pantimayres@talktalk.net (436395). Please have all contributions in by 6.30pm on Thursday.

DIARY

Sunday 6th April

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 15:00 *Children's Church Easter Party (Church Hall)*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
- 19:45 *Youth Group Leader's Meeting (38 London Road)*

Monday 7th April

No Stepping Stones

Tuesday 8th April

- 20:00 *Wives' Group (Church Hall)*

Wednesday 9th April

- 10:30 *Holy Communion (Oak Tree Court)*

Thursday 10th April

- 09:45 *Holy Communion*
- 10:00 *St Mary's 0-5s (Comrades' Club)*

Friday 11th April

- 19:30 *Choir Practice (Church Hall)*
- 20:00 *Ely Choir Festival Practice (Church Hall)*

Saturday 12th April

Vicar returns from Japan

- 09:45 *Walk Through New Testament (Baptist Church Centre)*

Sunday 13th April

- 08:00 *Holy Communion*
- 09:45 *Sung Eucharist*
- 11:00 *Grassroots & Baptism*
- 18:30 *Sung Evensong*
- 18:45 *Youth Group – Film Making (Church Hall)*
- 20:00 *Children's Church Leader's Meeting (Vicarage)*

Coffee is served in the Church Hall after the morning Eucharist. Everyone is welcome

Visit the church website at www.stmarysgodmanchester.org